

Molars comparatively small, broad, and rounded in section, their enamel running almost completely round them, instead of failing for a larger or smaller gap at their antero-external and postero-internal corners. Last upper molar nearly half the area in cross section of m^2 .

Dimensions of type (measured in spirit):—

Head and body 158 millim.; tail 77; hind foot, s. u. 30, c. u. 35.

Skull: greatest length in middle line 42; basilar length 37.5; zygomatic breadth 26; interorbital breadth 8.5; least breadth above bullæ 17.2; greatest posterior breadth on auditory meatus 26.2; palate length 20; diastema 12.3; bulla, greatest length 15.5; breadth at right angles to the greatest length, excluding meatus, 8.8.

Hab. Sapucay, Paraguay.

Type. Adult male, in spirit. Collected by Mr. W. Foster. An imperfect skin also received.

This species is most nearly allied to *C. mendocinus*, Phil., of which topotypical specimens, collected by Mr. Bridges, are in the British Museum, but differs by various cranial details, of which the most obvious are the less cut out palate, the larger bullæ, and differently shaped teeth.

Ctenomys Azaræ is no doubt the Tuco-tuco whose history is given in Azara's famous work on the Mammals of Paraguay; and it is with the greatest pleasure that I take this opportunity for naming a species in honour of that naturalist, for whom I have always felt the most sincere admiration. No one who has read his book, as I have again and again, can fail to be attracted by his character, his *naïveté*, and his genuine love of his subject, or to admire the excellence and accuracy of his descriptions, which, while innocent of technicalities, were better than any others of his date, and indeed than many of those produced by technical zoologists for half a century later.

XXVII.—*Description of a new Coleopterous Insect belonging to the Curculionidæ.* By CHARLES O. WATERHOUSE, F.E.S.

A SHORT time ago I received from Mr. G. H. Carpenter, of the Science and Art Museum, Dublin, some weevils which were injurious to ferns in greenhouses. Whence these insects came is not known, but they belong to the genus *Syagrius* of

Pascoe, and are therefore almost certainly Australian. The species, which appears to be undescribed, I propose to call

Syagrius intrudens, sp. n.

Elongatus, crassus, subparallelus, piceo-niger, parum nitidus, rugosus; antennis tarsisque piceis.

Long. 7-10 mm.

Rostrum gently arcuate, thick, with a fine median smooth line and with a groove on each side above the antennal groove; the apex shining and finely punctured. Forehead rugosely punctured, with a well-marked impression in the middle. Thorax with its broadest part in front of the middle, a trifle narrower at the anterior angles than at the posterior; the sides arcuate; the base exactly fitting the base of the elytra, but a trifle narrower. The surface very uneven, consisting of closely placed irregular obtuse tubercles, some of which are shining. The interspaces with very short brownish pubescence. Elytra very convex, humped up at the suture, with a slight constriction at the base, gradually widening from this to the apical declivity, where they are as wide as the widest part of the thorax. Apical declivity almost vertical. The region of the scutellum and some irregular, rather oblique, vermiculate impressions dull black. The rest of the surface covered with very irregular more or less confluent tubercles, which are themselves ornamented with very small shining tubercles. Near the suture, just at the apical declivity, there are two tubercles which are rather more prominent than the others; these and some of the others have more or less brownish hair on them. There are also some of these short brown hairs just within the humeral angle. At the sides there are two or three rows of elongate deep foveæ.

The punctuation of the basal portion of the rostrum varies very much. Some specimens have it closely and rugosely punctured; in others the punctures are separated and the surface is shining. This difference is no doubt sexual.

This species resembles *S. fulvitaris*, Pascoe (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. xvi. 1875, p. 56), but the rostrum is less strongly curved and the tubercles on the dorsal surface of the thorax and elytra are much more numerous. In *S. fulvitaris* the dull black surface is greater than that occupied by the tubercles; in *S. intrudens* the reverse is the case.

The specimens vary very much in size. I am told by Mr. A. M. Lea that *Syagrius* is injurious to ferns, especially to *Adiantum*, in greenhouses in Sydney.